

**AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**

Please amend the specification at page 3, lines 10-19, as follows:

A previous proposal to eliminate these disadvantages produces cold-compressed pellets from the powder (~~cf. DE-A-43 210 351~~) (cf. DE-A-4210351 which corresponds to U.S. 5,393,473).

However, it has been found that these pellets lack adequate grain strength. The consequence of this was that the pellets had inadequate stability during transport, and that a considerable proportion of the pressed pellets broke down again to give powder during processing. The disadvantages listed above therefore appeared again during processing. In addition, the method of producing the pellets requires the use of a suitable mold of different thickness depending on the nature of the modification, e.g. with color pigments or fillers, and the result can be enormous set-up costs.